

Historic Preservation in Michigan



The rehabilitation of the Point Betsie Light Station, Frankfort



The Friends of Point Betsie Lighthouse, Quinn Evans Architects, U.P. Engineers & Architects, Mihm Enterprises, Inc., Amy Ferris, Charles J. Clarke, and Benzie County Commissioner Mary Pitcher

The Friends of Point Betsie Lighthouse organized in 2005 and assisted Benzie County in acquiring the Point Betsie Light Station. Since then the Friends has partnered with the county to raise more than \$1.5 million in grant funds and private donations.

The group hired architects and contractors with experience in lighthouse rehabilitation and meticulously restored the exterior and interior of the lighthouse and three additional outbuildings. The project involved extensive coordination among the Friends, Benzie County, the architects, the contractor, the State Historic Preservation Office, the US Bureau of Land Management, and the Michigan Lighthouse Project in order to complete the rehabilitation.

Collaboration among the many partners continues at the light station with the goal of ensuring its long term preservation and public access.

